# The Influence of Ambidextrous Leadership: Opening and Closing Leadership Behaviors on Innovation and Educational Performance in Private Higher Education

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#### **Abstract**

This study explores the influence of ambidextrous leadership on innovation activity and the impact of innovation activity on performance in private higher education institutions. Ambidextrous leadership, characterized by opening and closing leadership behaviors, is crucial in fostering innovation activity. This research examines how innovation activity is influenced by opening and closing leadership behaviors, the interaction between these behaviors and their impact on innovation activity. Furthermore, this study investigates the influence of innovation activity on educational performance.

Data were collected from 75 leaders across 11 private colleges in Jakarta, Indonesia, and analyzed using Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) via SMART PLS. This research found that innovation activity is significantly influenced by closing leadership behaviors, whereas opening leadership behaviors do not have a notable effect. Furthermore, the results show that the interaction between opening and closing leadership behaviors does not significantly influence innovation activity. However, innovation activity significantly influences educational performance.

These findings suggest that higher education leaders should adopt a balanced approach of ambidextrous leadership to enhance innovation and educational performance. Practical implications for leadership development and indicate possible directions for future study are also explored.

# **Keywords**

Ambidextrous Leadership, Collaboration, Innovation, educational performance, Higher Education.